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MR. PRESIDENT: A DOZEN FLAGS FLY FOR VIETS

U.S. Contributes Most: Half Billion a Year

[A member of THE TRIN-
UNE's Washington bureau
has gone to Viet Nam to give
a first hand account of the
war-torn country in which
16,000 Americans are serving,
and to tell why Washington
wants to keep it from the
Communists. This is the 12th
of his reports.]

BY PHILIP DODD
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

SAIGON, Viet Nam, June 23
—The Old French military
headquarters on the outskirts
of Saigon was a beehive of ac-
tivity as South Vietnamese of-
ficers and American military
advisers applied themselves to
the task of training and field-
ing an army.

Young officers listened to lec-
tures. Others studied artillery
manuals. Still others were im-
mersed in the endless paper
work that is common to armies
the world over.

From one high-ceilinged
room, its broad windows open
to the sultry air of this tropical
country, came the sounds of
grunts and the thump of bodies
being thrown violently to the
matted floor.

Death Swift and Silent

It was a class in karate, that
particularly violent form of
hand-to-hand combat used in
jungle warfare against com-
munist guerrillas. Properly ap-
plied, it can bring swift and
silent death.

The instructor was a Korean,
a member of a team of karate
instructors sent to Viet Nam by
the government of South Korea
to help in the fight against
Communists way down here in
southeast Asia. They train
South Vietnamese soldiers and
police.

The karate instruction by the
south Koreans is part of grow-
ing foreign aid programs being
conducted in South Viet Nam
by a dozen nations. Money-
wise, they total about 10 mil-
lion dollars a year, a mere two
per cent of the 500 million dol-
lar a year American outlay in
South Viet Nam.

More Flags Help

President Johnson said re-
cently that he would like to see
more flags in South Viet Nam.
They were here as he spoke,
however small their financial
contributions, and their activi-
ties are growing.

South Korea, for example,
has promised to send a medical
team and a small military
training unit versed in anti-
guerrilla warfare.

New Zealand, which already
has a surgical team staffing a
civilian hospital at Qui Nhon,
200 hundred miles up the coast,
is sending a 25-man non-combat
army engineer detachment to
repair roads and bridges.

Would Send Troops

The Chinese Nationalist gov-
ernment on Formosa, which al-
ready has sent agricultural ex-
perts to help Vietnamese peas-
ants increase farm production,
would like to send troops to
fight their sworn enemies, the
Communists.

Australia is providing many
types of assistance to Viet Nam,
its principal contribution being
a 30-man military advisory
team which is working with the
Vietnamese army in the far
northern provinces, just below
the North Viet Nam line.

Trained in Australia

Australian technical and eco-
nomic assistance to Viet Nam
takes many forms—railroad
coaches, windmills, farm tools,
special seeds for tropical pas-
torage and long term training
for Vietnamese in Australia.

One Australian project was
the operation of a demonstra-
tion dairy farm. The commu-
nist Viet Cong moved into the
area and the project collapsed
but the Australians are trying
again, this time on the outskirts
of Saigon. They had a similarly
sad experience late last year
with a demonstration sawmill.

Figures for Australian spend-
ing in South Viet Nam for the
current year were not avail-
able but a spokesman for the
embassy in Saigon estimated
that 7 million dollars had been

spent in the four years ending
with 1963. He said the program
was "escalating" in 1964.

Build Radio Station

New Australian projects this
year include the construction
of a 50 kilowatt radio station
at Ban Me Thuot in the central
highlands and the provision of
heavy equipment for road
building and irrigation projects.

In addition to its surgical
team and army engineer de-
tachment, New Zealand has
made a \$200,000 grant for a
science building at the Univer-
sity of Saigon and provided
equipment for the school of
medicine at Hue, the ancient
Vietnamese capital just south
of North Viet Nam, and for vo-
cational schools in Saigon.

"Our efforts may be small in
dollars but we're long on mis-
sionary zeal," said Miss Nat-
alie England, second secretary
of the New Zealand embassy in
Bangkok.

British Train Police

Other countries helping South
Viet Nam and the contributions
include:

Britain: an advisory mission
to train Vietnamese police,
medical school equipment, as-
sistance to the mining engineer-
ing school and loans to buy
dredging equipment.

Malaysia: scout cars for the
civil guard and training for 200
army officers at the Malaysian
jungle warfare training school.

West Germany: machinery
and equipment for an engineer-
ing trade school and loans for
commercial imports and indus-
trial development.

Japan: construction equip-
ment and materials.

Canada: wheat.

Last, but far from least,
France is providing almost 5
million dollars a year in aid to
South Viet Nam in loans and
credits. Altho French rule over
Indo-China ended with the dis-
astrous defeat at communist
hands in 1954, the country has

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